

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.(original) Rachidian anchoring device with pedicular hooks (2, 4), permitting the emplacement and securement of a connecting rod (3) at the level of each vertebra (9) of a vertebral column characterized in that each pedicular hook (2, 4) comprises securement means for the reception and blocking of a transverse rod (5) connecting said pedicular hooks (2, 4) together and permitting compression between the two pedicular hooks (2, 4) in a direction toward the center of the vertebra (9).

2.(original) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 1, characterized in that it comprises a first pedicular hook (2) comprising an osseous anchoring portion (6) and an open body (7) for the reception and securement of the connecting rod (3) by means of a clip (14) by means of a pressure screw (15), said open body (7) comprising on its external surface a prolongation (24) provided with securement means for the reception and blocking of the transverse rod (5) and a second pedicular hook (4) comprising an osseous anchoring portion (40) and an open body (41) provided with securement means for the reception and securement of the transverse rod (5).

3.(original) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 2, characterized in that the prolongation (24) is directed on the one hand perpendicularly to the direction of securement of the connecting rod (3) and on the other hand above the osseous anchoring portion (6) forming a hook.

4.(original) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 2, characterized in that the prolongation (24) comprises a recess (25) of U shape opening externally of the prolongation and having in a vertical direction a screw-threaded portion (26) coacting with a pressure screw (27) for the blocking of the transverse rod (5) in said recess.

5.(original) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 2, characterized in that the prolongation (24) comprises two parallel blades (48, 49) separated by a vertical slot (50) opening into a recess (51) for the reception of the transverse rod (5).

6.(original) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 5, characterized in that each parallel blade (48, 49) comprises an inclined surface (52, 53) forming the upper and external portion of a hook and a hooking portion (54) communicating with the recess (51) for the reception of the transverse rod (5).

7.(original) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 2, characterized in that the open body (41) of the second pedicular hook (4) comprises two vertical and lateral branches (43, 44) delimiting a U shaped opening (45) comprising a screw-threaded portion (46) coacting with a pressure screw (47) for the blocking in the bottom of the opening (45) of the transverse rod (5).

8.(original) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 2, characterized in that the open body (41) of the second pedicular hook (4) comprises two vertical and lateral branches (43, 44) delimiting a U shaped opening (45) comprising, at one of its ends and in a horizontal direction, a cylindrical bore (58) permitting the reception and axial guidance of a locking nut (59) for the blocking of the transverse rod (5).

9.(original) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 4, characterized in that the transverse rod (5) has a cuttable smooth cylindrical profile.

10.(currently amended) Rachidian anchoring device according to ~~any one of claims 5 and 6~~ claim 5, characterized in that the transverse rod (5) comprises a T shaped hooking portion constituted by an axle (55), adjacent the axle (55) parallel flats (56) which are prolonged by a cylindrical and screw-threaded profile (57).

11.(original) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 10, characterized in that the transverse rod (5) comprises at the level of its flats (56) a screw-threaded portion (64) coacting with a locking nut (65) permitting locking the return of the rod to the level of its axle (55) relative to the first hook (2).

12.(original) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 8, characterized in that the nut (59) has a gripping head (60) which is prolonged by a hollow cylinder (61) which is screw-threaded in its internal portion to coact with the screw-threaded profile (57) of the transverse rod (5).

13.(original) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 8, characterized in that the nut (59) can have in the prolongation of its gripping head (60) a hollow cylinder (62) internally screw-threaded and longitudinally cut into several identical portions (63).